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Meeting Minutes of:
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Special Commission on Gynecological Cancers – Meeting 2

May 24, 2023
11:03 a.m. until 12:02 p.m.

Attendees

Members in Attendance		Guests and IDPH	
Kandice Draw Leah Hoeniges Representative Mattie Hunter Kimberly Jay Nita Lee Kayla Nixon Kimberly Richardson Cherie Taylor Emma Barber Shannon MacLaughlan David Daniela Matei Matthew Pickett Susan Stewart		Sarah O'Connor – Host – DPH Julie Davis – DPH Jennifer Ludwig – DPH Lisa Masinter – DPH Allison Nickrent – DPH Maura Quinlan - DPH Carrie Allen - DPH Angela McLemore	
		Members Not in Attendance	
		Amina Ahmed	

Meeting Minutes of:
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Special Commission on Gynecological Cancers – Meeting 2

May 24, 2023

Page 2 of 4

Call to Order

Meeting called to order 11:03 am by Sarah O'Connor-Bennett

Introductions

Role taken

Brief introduction of IDPH staff in attendance

Reintroduction of board-

Kim Richardson- Two-time cancer survivor, patient advocate for a little under a decade

Kandice Draw- Daughter of someone with ovarian cancer and is an advocate for the Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance

Shannon MacLaughlan David- Gynecology Oncology

Kayla Nixon – Gynecological surgeon and professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Rush University

Leah Hoeniges- 3-year Cervical Cancer Survivor

Nita Lee- Gynecological clinician and surgeon, and does additional community education

Kim Jay- Training Manager and Senior Community Health worker

Cherrie Taylor – Ovarian cancer survivor as well as a two-time breast cancer survivor

Susan Stewart- Ovarian Cancer survivor and cancer advocate

Daniela Matei- Conducts research specializing in gynecological cancers

Matthew Pickett- Policy coordinator, health care policy and advisement

Senator Mattie Hunter- Goal to address diversity, equity and inclusion, reduce/eliminate women from dying from gynecological cancers

Items Discussed:

1. Reminder of the mission of the Commission

Review of five primary mission statements of the commission provided through legislation

2. Election of a Chair

Representative Mattie Hunter recommended the chair to be a medical professional as well as someone in a research position

Nomination of Kimberly Richardson brought forth by Dr. Nita Lee

Seconded by Dr Shannon MacLaughlan David

Kimberly Richardson involved with research in OCRA, advocate and survivor, bringing attention to those who are under served

Vote of nomination Yay- 12 Nay- 0 Abstain- 0

Meeting Minutes of:
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Special Commission on Gynecological Cancers – Meeting 2

May 24, 2023

Page 3 of 4

3. Sub-Committee Topics and creating a Mission Statement

Sub-Committee Topics Proposed*:

1. Research and Policy Development
2. Prevention
3. Diagnosis, Treatment, and Survivorship

*All sub-committees will address disparities and access to care, making this the true foundation of this commission

Commission will meet next in 4-5 weeks

Sarah O'Connor-Bennett has tasked members to

- bring with them ideas to create a mission statement on sub-committee topics to the next meeting
- Identify items that commission is wanting to query so that we are able to find answers on information and questions that would be beneficial to have more data on

Question brought forth about the timeline for sub-committees to have determinations in

-Report is set to be turned in by the end of Calendar Year 2023

Question brought forth in regards of epidemiology information and access to it to support sub-committees in their discussions

4. Marketing and Promotion of the Commission and the Mission

- Promotion of the commission so that people are aware that the effort is ongoing
- Initial hashtag brought forth was #endgynecancerIL
- Sarah will coordinate with IDPH communications team to identify what the commission is able to do as far as promotion and marketing the concept to individuals
- Kimberly Richardson brought up the point that Illinois is the second state in the nation to develop a commission on this topic, so the commission is trying to pave the way to the continuance of this research

Meeting Minutes of:
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Special Commission on Gynecological Cancers – Meeting 2

May 24, 2023

Page 4 of 4

5. Update on Vacancies

- Special Commission to be 22 members, currently at 13 members
- Several vacant positions were displayed and discussed the steps taken to fill these positions, 9 positions still vacant
- Allison Nickrent indicated that her office is continuing to follow up on appointments, as well as the importance of in-person meetings after the disaster declaration has officially been withdrawn

*Note made by Allison Nickrent that advisory committees without ability to make binding decisions are able to meet virtually under certain legislation, and that this would be able to be applied to this commission

Adjournment

Kimberly Richardson made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 12:02 pm. Seconded by Shannon MacLaughlan David